

# Northwest Missourian

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MARYVILLE, MISSOURI

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## Regents outline 7-step search process

SIDNEY LOWRY  
Managing Editor | @sidney\_lowry

In the months since former Northwest President John Jasinski departed from the University, the Northwest Board of Regents have outlined the process of looking for a new president.

The Regents are working alongside Anthem Executive, a Texas-based firm, to extend a contract for the presidential search.

Anthem Executive has been operating for over 30 years as a minority and veteran-owned firm consulting clients through nationwide executive searches. Not only does Anthem assist in seeking personnel for higher education, but also healthcare, non-profits, governments and other sectors.

Based off feedback the Regents have heard from people wanting to have input on what the search firm should look for in a new president, Anthem Executive will be holding 50-minute sessions with different students, faculty, alumni and stakeholders Aug. 22 and Aug. 23 in the J.W. Jones Student Union Boardroom.

Monday kicks off at 9 a.m. with a session for Northwest staff, then will move on to community members at 10 a.m. for their input. Northwest Alumni will have the chance to meet at 11:15 a.m. on Zoom to share the qualities they want to see in the next president. Later in the day Northwest stakeholders will meet at 1:30 p.m. The last meeting of the day will be at 2:45 p.m. for Northwest faculty.

Tuesday there will be another meeting at 8:30 a.m. for Northwest faculty and another meeting at 9:45 a.m. for stakeholders. The Northwest Leadership will meet at 11 a.m. to give their input and then students will have an opportunity at 12:30 p.m. that day.

If students aren't able to attend the in-person feedback session, they will have another opportunity starting Friday to give feedback via a survey that can be found on the presidential search page on the Northwest website.

After these sessions, the Board will approve the profile made by feedback at its Sept. 8 meeting. These qualities will be what Anthem Executive and the Presidential Search Committee will use when evaluating possible candidates.

The Presidential Search Committee was approved at the Regents Aug. 4 meeting and consists of Regent Chair John Moore, Regent Roxanna Swaney, Regent Mel Tjeerdsema, Regent Jason Klindt. Peter Adam was chosen to represent Northwest faculty. Allison Atkinson will represent the Alumni Association, Tyrone Bates will represent the Black Alumni and Friends Chapter of the Alumni Association and Leisha Barry and Carl Hughes will represent the Northwest Foundation.

SEE COMMITTEE | A4



SIDNEY LOWRY MANAGING EDITOR

Northwest Interim President Clarence Green stands in his new workspace in the President's Office. The Board of Regents announced Green was to take the place of former Northwest President John Jasinski April 20, and Green has been working as president since July 1.

## FROM STUDENT TO PRESIDENT

A glance into the first few weeks of being Northwest's interim president.

SIDNEY LOWRY  
Managing Editor | @sidney\_lowry

After 26 years of working at Northwest at the University Police Department, Clarence Green now finds himself trading in his uniform and leaving his office at the edge of campus for the seat as interim president.

"I've never really chased, you know, this type of role at all," Green said. "I never really visioned myself as being a president of a university."

Green started his journey at Northwest earning a bachelor's degree and ended up working at UPD in 1996. Since then he has held interim vice president of diversity and inclusion and the interim vice president of human resources. Starting in 2019 he became the vice president of culture and oversees the Office of Human Resources and the Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness.

The Board of Regents announced Green would be Northwest's interim president April 20, just a few weeks after former Northwest President John Jasinski announced his departure from the University.

"I was pretty blown away because it is a tremendous responsibility to help lead the organization," Green said. "But I also felt, you know, a sense of honor. I was overwhelmed with kind of just all of the emotions running to me... All of those emotions were going through my mind, and perhaps still a lot of them are, you know, like, I still haven't come down from the race that's going on in my mind."

Since the announcement, Green said he has had an overwhelming amount of support from the campus and community with alumni reaching out to talk to him about the tremendous responsibility that comes with being interim president.

"You know, there's not a day that goes by that I don't receive a text or call from some sort of alumnas talking to me about Northwest, and how proud they are that I'm in this position and how much they're willing to help," Green said.

Just over a month and half of taking on this role, Green said he is still learning about the position and the responsibilities that come with it. Green said one of his goals is to build back trust with the campus and community.

With the news of Jasinski leaving Northwest, members were divided and lost trust within the University leadership.

Building trust is nothing new for Green. Senior Instructor Kenton Wilcox said he's been doing that since he has been on campus by personally getting to know students.

"Pre-COVID I was at a graduation and Dr. J gave Dr. Green a shout out and the students all cheered very enthusiastically, and the person sitting next to me was kind of 'did a bunch of college students just enthusiastically cheer a chief of police?'" Wilcox said.

SEE PRESIDENT | A4

“

“Someone had once told me ‘You know, what if it turns out better than you ever imagined?’ and it makes me think, don’t set limits.”

-CLARENCE GREEN

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# South Main Street receives more funding

**QUENTIN MORRIS**  
Asst. News Editor | @QuentinCMorris

Maryville received a second grant to fund phase two of the South Main Corridor Improvement Project.

The city has received more than \$16 million in grant money. Maryville is not only unique in getting the grant money but also because it is getting two separate grants for the same project.

"Obtaining a grant, let alone both, is extremely rare as it is a nationwide application process for limited funding," City Manager Greg McDanel said.

In 2022, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska and Missouri combined there were only 12 of these grants passed out.

Phase two of the project is a continuation of the improvements included in phase one. The project will continue the roadway reconstruction. Construction will also improve surrounding infrastructure like redoing water drainage by putting in new curbs and enclosed storm drains. Utilities along the road will be replaced. Power lines will be buried, new street lighting and water lines are to be put in. Another benefit of this grant is the city does not have to match the funds.

The city received money through the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development grant. The federal government gave \$10.48 million to fund phase one.

While the funding for phase two has now been acquired, the timeline for

construction has not been determined. McDanel said the city still has to work with other government bodies to determine the next steps for the project.

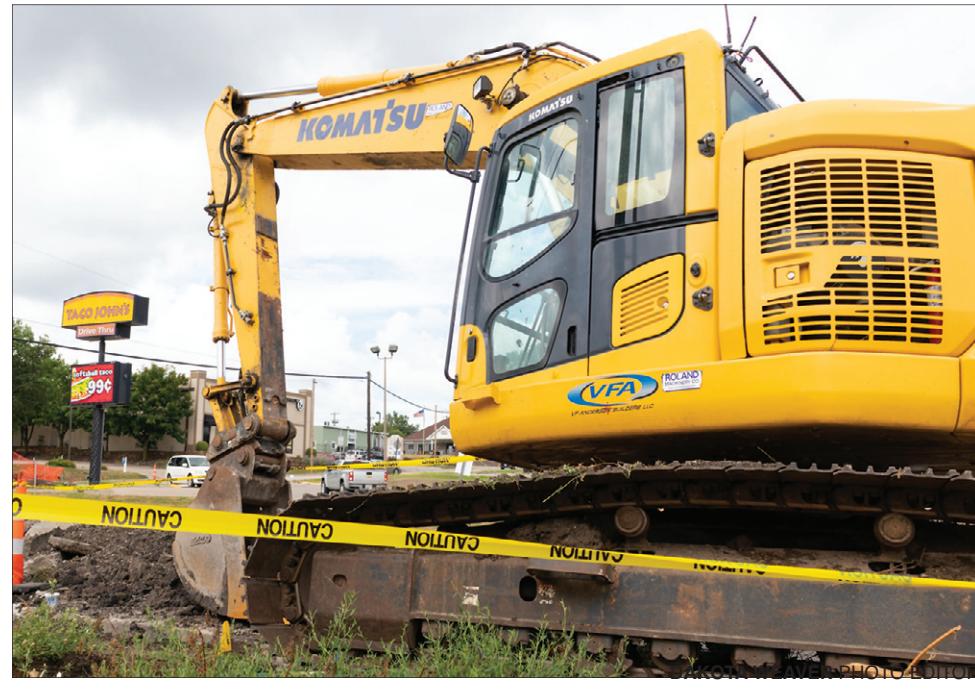
"Maryville will be working with the Federal Highway Administration and the Missouri Department of Transportation to outline this over the next few months," McDanel said. "Ideally, the project would be scheduled to immediately follow or run simultaneously with the rest of phase one which contractually has a completion date in April 2023."

The reason behind the two phases in the project is directly related to the increase in material cost. The city has been looking for outside funding for the second phase since April 2021.

Material costs have seen multiple price increases since the start of the pandemic. The National Association of Home Builders reports materials like steel, concrete and lumber have all seen significant price increases. Even though some materials like steel have seen some drop in their cost, they still cost more than their pre-pandemic price. Other materials like lumber are still rising in price. Since September 2021 lumber has gone up 90%.

Last week, Congressman Sam Graves announced in a press release that Maryville will receive an extra \$5.9 million from the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity program.

"I'm thrilled to see this project receive



Construction continues on South Avenue next to Taco Johns and AT&T. The construction on

additional funding," Graves said. "This corridor is going to be beautiful and will greatly enhance safety and ease of travel through Maryville."

Receiving the grants has been a long process that has involved government officials on state, local and federal levels.

"Congressman Graves has been an advocate for both the BUILD and

RAISE grant applications submitted by the City of Maryville," McDanel said. "City of Maryville included letters of support from Congressman Graves in both applications along with other legislators such as Missouri Governor Mike Parson, Senator Dan Hegeman and Representative Allen Andrews."

## Northwest adds gender-neutral bathroom to Student Union

**JAKE PRATER**  
Asst. News Editor | @JakobLPrater

Northwest is in the process of installing a new gender-neutral bathroom on the third floor of the J.W. Jones Student Union. This aligns with the new living space on the seventh floor of Franken Hall for LGBTQ+ students.

Late last semester, students approached Assistant Vice President of Title IX and Equity Will Sabio concerning the possibility of installing gender-neutral bathrooms on campus and an LGBTQ+ focused living area.

"There is a gender-neutral bathroom already in the library,

but I don't think it's well known," Sabio said. "I think we need to do a better job with gender-neutral restrooms throughout campus. This whole initiative has prompted me and Residential Life facilities to look at where we also need to be looking at in other buildings, to make sure that we support this need and this concern. It's totally rooted in safety and making those who want to have a gender-neutral bathroom feel comfortable."

Zed Zayour is the inclusion assistant for Franken Hall and now oversees the newly formed LGBTQ+ living area.

"It's exciting, the Union is

the first step," Zayour said. "The next thing, as far as I know, is going to be academic buildings. I was being bullied no matter which bathroom I used. Whether that was at the Union and academic buildings. People would give me weird looks, call me slurs, that kind of stuff."

Once word reached Sabio, he and Zayour had a meeting where she brought up the idea for more gender-neutral bathrooms and a first-of-its kind on-campus LGBTQ+ living area.

Zayour said initially Tower Suites was considered for its private bathrooms, but the residential area would be too

popular to house any more students since it was late in the semester, so Franken was selected, since it has private bathrooms and showers as well.

"The timing was perfect, I could take action so it could be addressed over the summer," Sabio said. "With the housing, many students have already selected their housing for fall, but we put that out there as an option. The block of rooms is small to start, but it's to create the awareness that it's important to us at Northwest."

Sabio said the Union's gender-neutral bathroom is set to be completed by the end of the month.

"I'm happy about that," Sabio said. "It's a very reasonable ask, and it's very important to the LGBTQ+ community that we do this, and we recognize that as important. Not just the community, but it's the right thing for Northwest to be doing."

The block of rooms for the LGBTQ+ living area remain vacant, with Zayour saying there were only three moved in so far. Safety was a main concern getting the living areas set up, which could lead to targeting.

"The main counterargument that I and other members of H.E.R.O. and the community have been using is that people

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# Marijuana to hit Midwest ballots this fall

JAKE PRATER

Asst. News Editor | @JakobLPrater

Secretary of State John Ashcroft confirmed an amendment to legalize recreational marijuana will appear on the Missouri midterm ballots Aug. 9. The announcement came via Legal Missouri 2022's Instagram, where state officials certified 214,535 voter signatures across Missouri's eight congressional districts. The measure could make Missouri the 20th state to legalize marijuana and the first to turn over non-violent marijuana convictions.

Legal Missouri 2022 is the campaign to legalize, tax and regulate adult-use marijuana in Missouri via the proposed Amendment 3, which would make Missouri the 20th state in the nation to legalize recreational cannabis. Amendment 3 comes a full decade after Colorado and Washington became the first states to completely legalize it. Missouri voted in favor of medical marijuana in the 2018 midterms with a 65.6% vote to do so with over 1.5 million votes.

Over the past few months, Legal MO 2022's initiative citizen petition garnered over 400,000 signatures from Missouri citizens. However, Jessica Piper, democratic nominee for representative of district one of Missouri, wishes the process was easier.

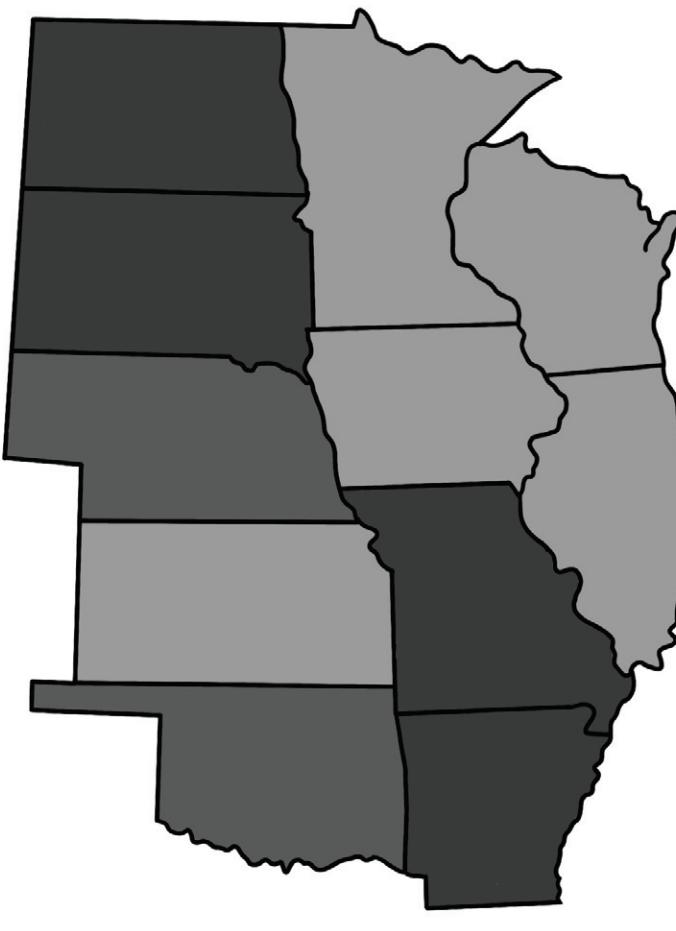
"I wish we could do it legislatively," Piper said. "I wish that we didn't have to petition our government all the time, but we have to do that because we have a republican supermajority who doesn't listen to constituents."

Amendment 3 does not just cover immediate legalization, it also includes legal reform. If passed, the amendment would enforce automatic expungement of certain marijuana-related convictions.

Expungement would appeal to Missouri marijuana convictions that are non-violent, do not involve driving under the influence or distribution to minors. This makes Missouri the first state to vote on automatic expungement in relation to past cannabis convictions. In 2020, 10,650 Missouri residents were arrested for marijuana possession, and the low-offense and non-violent convictions could be overturned.

Amendment 3 would also ban marijuana no-knock raids, even if a warrant is

## RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA USE ON BALLOTS



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GRAPHIC BY MAKAYLA POLAK EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

issued, and the smell of marijuana alone would not constitute reasonable suspicion of a crime.

Piper also said she supported automatic expungement for cannabis offenses that aren't serious.

"I don't think anybody should be in jail right now for a non-violent weed offense," Piper said.

Amendment 3 also tackles the business and fiscal side of a state that legalizes cannabis. If passed, the amendment would allow local governments to assess local sales taxes up to 3% while the state tax will be 6%.

The state tax would cover all administrative costs and any remaining sur-

plus would be divided equally amongst the state's veteran healthcare, drug rehabilitation and public defender system. State officials estimate the state tax could add an additional \$40.8 million, and local governments could see an increase of up to \$13.8 million.

The proposed amendment also seeks new business licenses for small and local dispensary businesses. All new license holders will be selected randomly by a lottery. It also strengthens Missouri's medical marijuana laws, extending a prescription card from one year to three years while keeping fees low.

Missouri is not the only state to have marijuana in the midterms, as states all

across the midwest will be or will possibly vote on it this November. In addition to Missouri, legalization will appear on the midterm ballots in Arkansas, North Dakota and South Dakota as of Aug. 16.. There are also ongoing and unconfirmed efforts for the states of Nebraska and Oklahoma's midterms.

"It's really popular with most people," Piper said. "Legalizing marijuana polls round up to 65%. That's bipartisan. People want it, it's just that nobody's been listening to the people."

The Missouri midterm general election will be held Nov. 8.

# New Wellness program replaces Green Dot

KENNEDY KALVODA  
News Reporter I @Kkalvoda1

Big changes are coming to the University Wellness Center this school year. The University Wellness Center is replacing its Green Dot program, which has been on campus for nearly seven years, with a new program called Engage.

Green Dot is a sexual assault and domestic violence prevention program established at the University of Kentucky in 2006. This program was officially adopted by Northwest in October of 2015.

Wellness Educator Shelby Letuli said this new program will cover a multitude of areas including mental health, suicidality, alcohol abuse, drug use and more, whereas Green Dot only covered the two main subjects of sexual assault and domestic violence.

Wellness Educator Monica Zeigel shared the benefits she thinks the program will bring to the campus community.

"Engage is a program meant to give everyone the skills and confidence to respond to various problems and concerns they may encounter while at our campus," Zeigel said. "It helps to build a more caring and inclusive community."

Letuli said that she thinks this program covers a much wider variety of topics compared to the previous one which will benefit students more.

"It's a program that's done by the state through Missouri DHSS and Partners in Prevention," Letuli said. "They saw the gap that Green Dot had with not encompassing more of those topics that a lot of people do feel uncomfortable discussing. They saw that issue and decided to do a new program that was more encompassing."

Letuli also touched on the specific ways the dialogue and conversations in this new program are different from the previous one.

"It differs in the way that it encourages dialogue and conversation," Letuli said. "Instead of just looking at good or bad, it's looking at ways that we have acted or non-acted in the past in those situations, and what may change our action the next time or why we acted that way."

This program will involve the Wellness Center heavily, along with encouraging students and faculty to become involved as well.

"It's gonna be very active through the whole campus including wellness, but especially the wellness and education and prevention side of things, hopefully to get the students and faculty and staff as involved as possible, but then starting that from the inside out with the wellness services, education, and prevention," Letuli said.

Letuli wanted students to know anyone can sign up for training for themselves or even with student organizations. Students can also be facilitators in this new program, whereas Green Dot students were not allowed.

The training courses will be held as follows: 4 p.m. Sept. 13 in the J.W. Jones Student Union Board Room, 4:30 p.m. Sept. 27 in the Union Boardroom, 2 p.m. Oct. 9 in the Union Tower View Room, 5 p.m. Oct. 25 in the Union Boardroom, 7 p.m. Nov. 1 in the Tower View Room, and 5 p.m. Nov. 30 in the Union Boardroom.

Zeigel also added that it's the responsibility of everyone on campus to make the campus community a safe environment for everyone.

"You can make a positive difference in someone's life no matter your personality type," Zeigel said. "Engage provides skills and ideas for the most introverted and non-confrontational student to the highly extroverted person, and everyone in between."



DAKOTA WEAVER PHOTO EDITOR  
Wellness Services has a table filled with information on what they offer before the Can I Kiss You event at the Ron Houston Center.

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**NEWS BRIEF****Northwest's COVID-19 policy changes**

After the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released its newest update on COVID-19 procedures, Northwest will be following the same guidelines for the start of this semester.

Since Missouri has classified COVID as an endemic, Northwest Crisis Response Team 2, which oversees COVID guidelines on campus, has changed its focus. Instead of looking specifically at changing numbers of cases, it is now looking at the societal impact in the county as a whole. For now, Northwest is following the CDC guidelines.

Faculty, staff and students will no longer be required to quarantine after testing positive for COVID-19 despite vaccination status. There will be no mask mandate for vaccinated or unvaccinated individuals, yet it is recommended. N-95 masks are still being provided to students and can be picked up from the University Police Department.

COVID-19 testing will still be available for students at the Wellness Center and Mosaic Medical Center - Maryville. Northwest procedures will stay in line with the county, for the most updated COVID-19 information, refer to the Nodaway County Health Center.



FILE

Clarence Green has been known as the Vice President of Culture and University Police Department Chief along with many other interim positions. Green has been appointed the interim president as of July 1 to start off the 2022-23 school year.

**PRESIDENT**  
CONTINUED FROM A1

"Yeah. Because they know that Dr. Green is, you know, one of their biggest fans. He's such a cheerleader for the students, you know, he wants them all to go on and have great lives and do well," Wilcox said.

When it comes to making hard decisions and sometimes telling people things they don't want to hear, Green thinks trust helps make it easier. In his more than 25 years in law enforcement, that is something he said he thinks back to.

"Sometimes, you know, I'd say 'Man, I wish I had went into banking,' because this is hard. And this is going to be hard," he said. "But also I always, always look at myself and say, man, if it wasn't you, who would it be? And you're built for this so this is your destiny. This is what you chose to do. This is what you have to deliver. And then I'm back fired up, and I'm off to go. And I think, man, I would never want to be a banker. You know?"

His background in law enforcement has helped him spend the majority of his life helping others.

Lt. Anthony Williams started working at UPD as a student security officer when he went to Northwest. Williams said he looks up to Green, and he has taught him a lot in his time working at UPD.

"I come from a single mom and so growing up, it was hard to find good Black men, specifically, to be in your life," Williams said. "And he was one that, you don't want to get personal, obviously, in the workplace, but he definitely stepped up and taught me a lot of things with work and outside of work."

When hearing the news that Green was being considered for interim president, Williams said that while he would be sad to not talk with him every day anymore, it would be history in the making.

Despite only being in the role for a little over a month, Green said he is still learning about the position and the responsibilities that come with it. Though this role is different from previous titles he's held throughout his time on campus, he said this role has been more fun, and he's experienced things from a different perspective.

At the Aug. 4 Board of Regents meeting, Green talked about the three questions he had been asked the most during his first month of being interim president. One

of which was, will you be living in the Thomas L. Gaunt House?

"The first thing my son said is 'can he move into the house,'" Green said.

Though he said that with a laugh, and it seemed like a small decision in a long line of decisions ahead of him, it was a big choice for Green.

Northwest staff reached out to Green to share history about Thomas Gaunt and persuade him to live in the house. After learning about Gaunt being an abolitionist and serving in the Union Army, Green said he understood why people were saying he should live in the house, even just for the symbolism of him being Northwest's first Black president.

"It gives me goosebumps talking about it now, because for all of those reasons, they're right," Green said.

He spoke to many alumni, along with Dean L. Hubbard, Northwest's ninth President, and Raymond Courter, Northwest's Former Vice President of Finance but ultimately he said he chose not to move into the house because it was due for repairs in preparation for the next Northwest President.

"It was a big decision for me, it was harder than what I thought," he said. "And so there's, there's been a lot of pressure to say, you live there, because of the symbolism of it. And it's been hard to say we have to get it ready for that next leader."

Though he will be staying in his current home, that doesn't take away from the usual 12 hours each day he spends on campus.

At the All-Employee Meeting Aug. 10, Green announced the key initiatives and goals he wanted to work on during his time as interim president.

Some of the main points he wants to focus on in the next coming months is enrollment, engagement and communication, along with construction on Martindale Hall and working on the University's public-private partnership for energy.

Though this position will be one he hasn't ever experienced before, Green said he was ready for the challenge.

"Someone had once told me 'You know, what if it turns out better than you ever imagined?' and it makes me think, don't set limits," he said. "Realistic is bad advice, because you should be aspiring to do more...What if it turns out better? And what I found is most things do."

**CRIME LOG**  
for the week of Aug. 18**Maryville Police Department****Aug. 15**

A summons was issued to **Cara A. Connova**, 20, for larceny on the 1600 block of South Main Street.

A summons was issued to **Areyanna M. Sanchez**, 19, for larceny and a minor in possession on the 1600 block of South Main Street.

**Aug. 13**

There was an accident between **Kaitlin L. McBride**, 21, and **Saige B. Brown**, 19, on North Walnut Street and West Fifth Street. **McBride** was issued a citation for careless and imprudent driving.

**Aug. 12**

There is an ongoing investigation for trespassing on the 200 block of West Davison Square.

**Aug. 11**

A summons was issued to **Winayaka R. Jogannagari**, 23, for driving with a suspended license on the 700 block of South Main Street.

**Aug. 10**

There was an accident between **Kar B. Wolbert**, 83, and **Jacob M. Danner**, 17, on West First Street and North Munn Street. **Danner** was issued a citation for failure to yield.

A summons was issued to **Anthony W. Boydston**, 46, for driving while suspended on U.S. Highway 136 and U.S. Highway 71.

**Aug. 9**

There is an ongoing investigation for burglary on the 800 block of North Main Street.

There is an ongoing investigation for identity theft on the 1300 block of East Fourth Street.

**Aug. 7**

A summons was issued to **Dakota D. Chesnut**, 25, for failure to appear in court on the 300 block of North Main Street.

**Aug. 4**

There is an ongoing investigation for larceny on the 200 block of West Third Street.

There was an accident between **Bert G. Peacock**, 71, and **Delanie M. Hooker**, 20, on the 1600 block of South Main Street.

**PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH INPUT SESSION TIMES**

<b>Monday, Aug. 22</b>	<b>Tuesday, Aug. 23</b>
9 a.m. - Northwest Staff	8:30 a.m. - Northwest Faculty
10 a.m. - Community Members	9:45 a.m. - Stakeholders
11:15 a.m. - Alumni (Zoom)	11 a.m. - Northwest
1:30 p.m. - Stakeholders	Leadership Team
2:45 p.m. - Northwest Faculty	12:30 p.m. - Students

GRAPHIC BY SIDNEY LOWRY MANAGING EDITOR

**COMMITTEE**  
CONTINUED FROM A1

Rod Barr will represent the agricultural sector of Northwest, Selena Foreman and Gina Smith will represent Northwest staff, Matthew Walker will be an academic administration representation, Dannen Merrill will also sit on the committee to represent the community, Elizabeth Motazedzi will represent Student Senate.

After finalizing the qualities and holding a

kick-off meeting for the Presidential Search Committee at the Regent's Sept. 8 meeting, it will launch a two-month-long process where the firm will reach out to potential candidates.

The proposal for the search included a step where a link will be provided on the Northwest website containing information on the Search Firm, an estimated timeline of the overall process and other information as the search continues. Information can be found at [www.nwmissouri.edu/presidentsearch/](http://www.nwmissouri.edu/presidentsearch/).

# Maryville needs to accept everyone



KENNEDY KALVODA  
Columnist  
@Kkalvoda1

My name is Kennedy Kalvoda, and I am a bisexual woman. I grew up in a town where my high school was predominantly white and the majority of my peers used every slur in the book. It was a toxic environment to be in and coming to terms with my sexuality was twice as hard because of it.

Once I came to Northwest, I joined Helping Everyone Regardless of Orientation. This is one of the few places on campus where I feel seen, and I get to know people who are like me. I always feel so safe and respected whenever I go to a meeting.

Last year, I was lucky enough to be assigned some incredible roommates, who I can't wait to be rooming with again this year. They are all so kind and accepting of me, and it's great they are so supportive.

However, these bright spots are surrounded by a lot of darkness. In high school when I was part of our LGBTQ+ club, many of my peers were made fun of for being a part of it. And in college, many of my peers in HERO told stories about being harassed by peers and community members for dressing the way they felt comfortable or wearing their hair a certain way.

Maryville is not the only place where this is an issue, it is happening across the United States. LGBTQ+ people are constantly forced to tone down who they truly are or hide it away completely, and it breaks my heart.

We are also seeing things like the "Don't Say Gay" bill in Florida which is a prime example of the fact that the rights of LGBTQ+ people are being chipped away. This law forbids public school teachers in Florida from holding classroom instruction about sexual orientation or gender identity.

To members of this campus and the Maryville community who are straight, I implore you to listen to your LGBTQ+ peers and more importantly, amplify their voices. They deserve to be heard just as much as your do. Importantly, recognize the fact that we have to work harder than you do to simply exist as ourselves.

Pay attention to the struggles that most of us go through and be the ally that we need to help change this. To all of my fellow members of the LBGTQ+ community on the Northwest campus and in Maryville, if no one has told you recently, you deserve to be heard and represented fairly. The world is a better place because you're in it. If you are experiencing harassment, please talk to someone you trust and get the help you need.

This community should be a safe place for everyone no matter their sexual orientation or gender identity. If a peer is telling you that someone is making campus or Maryville unsafe for them, believe them, and do whatever it takes to help make it safer.

If you or someone you know is experiencing bullying or harassment on campus, contact Will Sabio in the Equity and Inclusion Office at 660-562-1873.

If you are experiencing suicidal thoughts, call the Trevor Project to connect with a counselor at 1-(866)-488-7386 or text them the word START in all capital letters at 678678.



ALEXANDRIA MESZ NW MISSOURIAN

## OUR VIEW:

# Presidential Search should have started months ago

It is nothing new to the Maryville community, but we are here to reiterate it yet again and catch those up who are new. On April 1, former President John Jasinski announced his departure from the University to the Bearcat community. Four months later, we still know little for the future of Northwest.

Just two weeks prior to Interim President Clarence Green taking on his new position, the Board approved the Presidential Search Process.

Though it is a step in the right direction, it isn't enough.

The process outlines a seven-step process they will follow in order to hire a new president. In the last step, it states they will "Finalize the Qualifications and obtain Board of Regent approval at the September 8 Meeting."

This means it will take three months from the day the process was approved to finalize and outline the qualifications for a presidential candidate.

The seven steps are nothing short of the correct route to take, but the timeline has room for improvement. We have an interim president for the time being, but that doesn't mean Northwest needs to spend all 12 months going through the process.

We are not suggesting to speed through the process, yet we are asking that we don't delay the issue at hand.

When Jasinski announced the Board of Regents decided not to re-

new his contract, that is when the search should have begun. Not when the email was sent, but when the choice was made two years ago.

Approving the qualifications five months after the announcement is too late. This is a process that should have started immediately. Rather, the Regents concluded on having an interim president and taking their time finding a permanent president for the University.

Though we will not know the possibilities of what could have happened if they would have started sooner, there is always the chance that we would have a president rather than an interim president.

When the news broke April 1 that Jasinski was leaving, the outrage was clear, and we stood right alongside our readers. We understood the frustrations people had towards the situation. Unfortunately, four months later, not much has changed.

Clarification is still being asked for, answers have yet to be provided and to top it all off, we are left in a waiting game with the hiring process of a new president.

Any college needs a president. A person to uplift the students, to be the face of the school, to help the school thrive and much more. Northwest doesn't have that permanent face yet, and it is outrageous. Outrageous because the Regent Chair

John Moore said Jasinski had known that his contract wouldn't be extended again. That is when they should've started looking, not when the seat became empty.

We appreciate the efforts that are given to finding a new president, but we would also like to see an expedited timeline.

During the June 16 Board of Regents meeting, the Regents appointed their four members to represent the board on the search committee. Step one to their own process was completed the day that it was approved. This clearly shows that the process does not need to expand over multiple months.

We have written 16 articles and now four Our Views about the Board of Regents relating to the departure of Jasinski and the search for a new president. With the layout of the current timeline to find a new president, we are heading into a future of more unanswered questions and more stories.

The 'we are working on it' aspect to this was expected, but not at such an elongated date. The Board of Regents should have created a more expedited time frame for the seven-step process.

The Regents have proved themselves before, expediting the search process for the interim president. We just want to see it happen again. We want questions answered and a permanent president, and we want them sooner rather than later.

## YOUR VIEW:

### Do you think Northwest will be able to find a qualified president in the next 11 months?

KIERSTEN HELM  
Senior  
Agricultural Media



AUBREY BURNS  
Junior  
Spanish Education



DENISE NEAL  
Sophomore  
Psychology Major



"I feel like it's possible, but they would have to look at more diverse candidates."

"Is there not a president right now?"

"No, I think that Clarence is the interim because everyone was really upset about what happened with Jasinski."

## THE STROLLER:

# Your Bearcat wants to be a freshman

As upperclassmen, we spent the entire summer dreading this exact week. We watched every day pass, getting closer to the moment we would actually have to be in a classroom.

Freshman on the other hand are walking around campus with their backpack hanging off one shoulder, a smile and wearing the clothes they bought for the new school year. I miss those days.

If I could have that mindset all over again, I completely would. I want to go to the store again and throw a bunch of dorm decorations in my cart. Now, I am buying more Excedrin and Redbull than food most days.

I can't even remember the last time I wore anything nicer than a t-shirt and a pair of pants — not sure if my closet even has anything outside of that.

I apologize if I do a double take as you walk by with a backpack hanging off your shoulder. I walk to class with three textbooks, a laptop and maybe one pen at best in my bag. The only thing not making me break down on the sidewalk is the blaring music in my ears from the AirPods that I've had for over six years.

I promise I am not trying to scare the freshman, but some-

one has to tell them that college is not all rainbows and sunshine — it's more, screaming birds and tornado sirens.

Enjoy your first year here, go to tailgates, bars and house parties. Because after this year, you'll find yourself shocked to even be awake by the time the bars open.

*The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian.*

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# Northwest Missourian

An Independent Student Newspaper since 1914.

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Your first copy of the Northwest Missourian is free. Additional copies cost 25¢ each.

# Northwest soccer starts season with high hopes

**WESLEY MILLER**  
Sports Editor | @wesleymiller360

It's been over 270 days since Northwest soccer had its best season in program history end in the first round of the NCAA Tournament by Emporia State.

The team finished with a record of 13-7-1 in 2021 and the most wins in a season in program history. While the Bearcats are still on the heels of the historic season, coach Marc Gordon and company are ready for what's next.

"Last year was special for a lot of different reasons," Gordon said. "The girls know the expectations for them, internally, are to exceed and continue to grow and make the program better."

Before they knew it, the Bearcats were beginning summer workouts and drills.

Senior midfielder Annelize Aleixo said her and her teammates were ready to get started on their goals and to be even better than last season.

"We had a great summer," Aleixo said. "We worked very hard, we did a lot of fitness, and we got to play as a team and do a lot of drills together."

"Their efforts and how they push each other in the activities really shows their commitment and aspirations for the season," Gordon said.

While it takes some time for freshmen to get accustomed to their new college schedules and become comfortable with their new teammates, Gordon said they've been able to fit right in.

For a team with 10 freshmen, being ahead of the curve can be a difference maker.

"The early signs show they're blending very well," Gordon said.

Last season's success didn't stop making its impact for the Bearcats after their postseason loss to the Hornets.

In fact, its impact has continued on to the current season, especially for the preseason polls.

Northwest earned its highest preseason ranking, Aug. 12, as the Bearcats are slated to start the season at No. 4 in the MIAA.

Gordon said he enjoys the recognition of the work the team has put in, and he is glad to see his team at the top of the polls. However, he doesn't want to get too caught up in the rankings this early.

"Last year was special, but with that comes new pressures and new responsibilities," Gordon said. "This is something the team has never started the season as, but it's a poll, you know? It's something to put out to let MIAA soccer know fans a new season is coming up. It's talking points — it starts conversations and interest — but I don't want to put too much value in it."

While Northwest has already started its fall routine, the team still has more preseason activities such as practice and scrimmages before its first weekend of games against Wayne State Aug. 26 in Wayne, Nebraska and Drury Aug. 28 at the Bearcat Pitch.

Despite having some time left before the new season officially kicks off, Aleixo said she can hardly wait to get back on the pitch for the official matches.

"I feel that we are all very excited, and we have a lot of freshmen and they're all gonna be great," Aleixo said.

The Bearcats were the surprise team in 2021, going from ranked at No. 7 in the preseason rankings to finishing



WESLEY MILLER SPORTS EDITOR

Northwest soccer sophomore defender Ashton Dain and freshman midfielder Katie Greening fight for the ball during practice Aug. 12.

third in the MIAA and earning a home MIAA Tournament game.

Despite the leap the team made, Aleixo expects even more to come in the upcoming season.

"Last year was a surprise, because it wasn't expected to have the season that we did," Aleexo said. "So, this year we're

actually really confident, and we have great new players, so I really think it's gonna be way better than last year. Our confidence is in a way better position right now, because we trust each other as well as the coaches, so it's going to be a great year for us."

## SPOOFHOUNDS

CONTINUED FROM A8

The team is looking at the jamboree as a dress rehearsal and as a way to work and improve on their execution before the season begins.

"The biggest focus for the jamboree is probably just to come out and perform and do what we do best, run the ball

hard and execute our plays," Watkins said.

Webb said he wants to take it one game at a time and have the mentality of 1-0 every week. He wants to focus on the game ahead, not games in the past, or down the line.

Watkins has his eyes on breaking the season sack record but, more importantly, being there for his teammates on the field.

"The goal for this season is to come out and prove everybody wrong, prove to them that we're the Spoofhounds and that we are here to play and to win," said Watkins.

While the jamboree will be a way for the team to settle in and put its hard work on display, the first game will be Aug. 26 in Warrensburg, Missouri, against Blair Oaks — a team Maryville has plenty of history with.

## BEARCATS

CONTINUED FROM A8

With 15 days before the Bearcats' season-opener, Wright might not want to focus on it too much yet, but Green is ready to get that game-feel again.

He said it's a common feeling this time of year.

"I feel like we're kinda like every team, like 'Okay, hitting my teammates is kind of getting old, and I'm ready to get out in that first game and hit a different color jersey,'" Green said.

The 'Cats will start the season not only with high expectations from themselves, but from the MIAA and nation.

During the MIAA Football Media Day July 26 in Kansas City, Missouri, Northwest was voted into the No. 1 spot for the

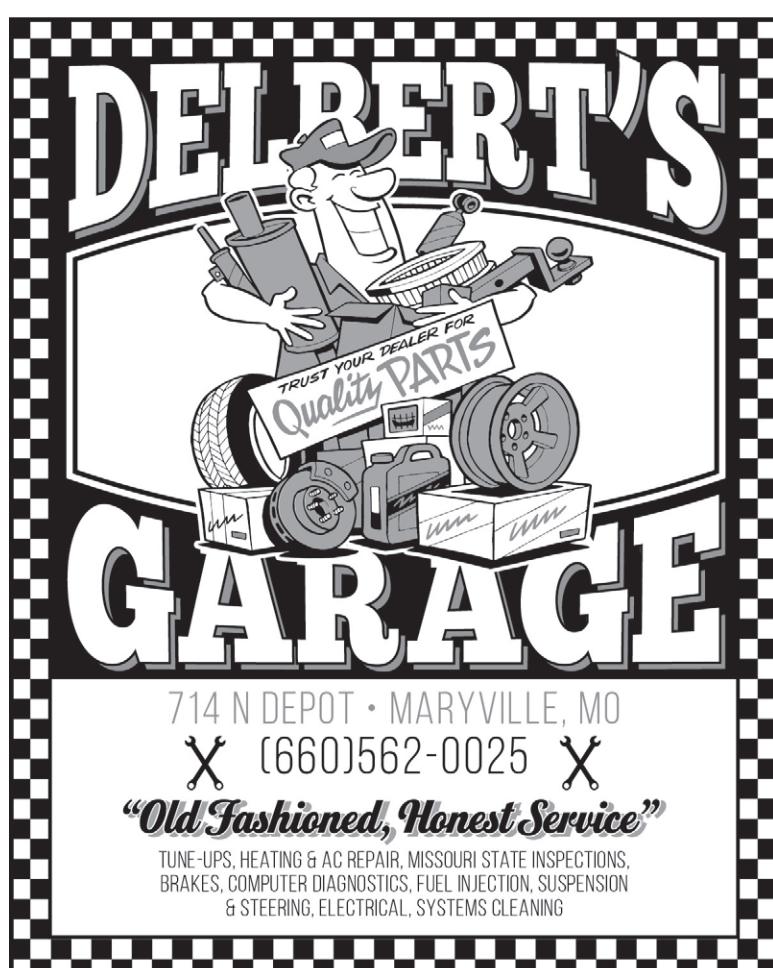
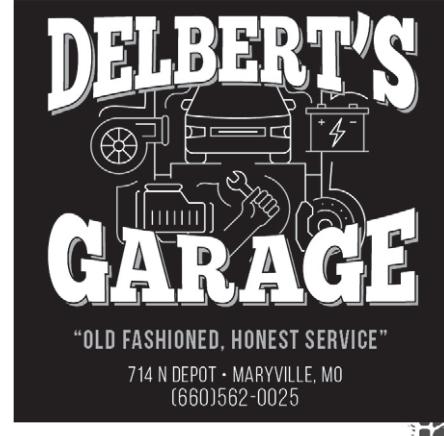
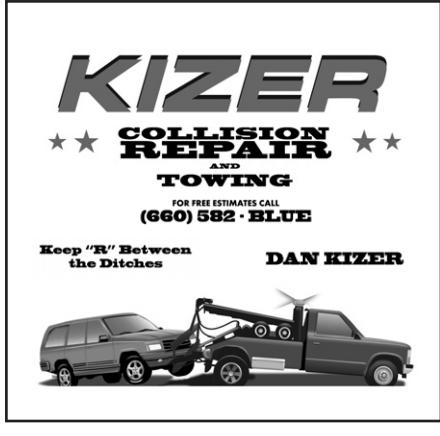
MIAA preseason rankings.

Northwest earned the No. 2 spot American Football Coaches Association's Division II Top 25 preseason poll Aug. 15. College Football America Yearbook's Top 30 ranked the Bearcats at No. 7 Aug. 12.

"It's just another number," Wright said. "That's really a reflection on where we were as a football team last year, that has nothing to do with where we are this year until we actually take the field with this group of kids and start playing football games."

"It doesn't matter until you actually line up and prove it," Green said. "We just try to come out every single day and just keep getting better every single day, and if everything goes right, we'll be where we wanna be."

# AUTOMOTIVE DIRECTORY



# What You Missed: Headlines from the summer

**WESLEY MILLER**  
Sports Editor | @wesleymiller360

School is back in session, which means campus will once again be filled with students. Most students enjoyed the break, but sports continued throughout the time off.

Former Northwest football defensive end Sam Roberts was selected No. 200 overall in the 2022 NFL Draft by the New England Patriots April 30.

That same day, former Northwest wide receiver Kaden Davis signed a free agent deal with the Denver Broncos. A mere three days after, May 3, former Northwest offensive lineman Tanner Owen inked a deal with the Buffalo Bills.

The basketball community lost longtime coach Larry Holley May 12. Holley coached men's basketball at Northwest from 1977-1979, where he compiled a record of 26-26. Holley would later depart in the fall of 1979 to coach his alma mater William Jewell until the spring of 2019. Holley won 918 games as a coach which gave him a total of 918 all-time wins, which is enough for No. 10 for all-time wins in men's college basketball.

Junior track athlete Reece Smith captured the crown in the men's 3,000-meter steeplechase with a time of 8:33.64 May 27. Smith is now just the eighth Bearcat to be a men's NCAA outdoor champion.

"It's just a surreal moment," Smith said.

Former Northwest men's basketball player Trevor Hudgins signed a two-way contract with the Houston Rockets June 23. Two-way contracts allow the players to play in, both, the G-League and in the NBA.

"Bearcat Nation, thank you for everything!" Hudgins said in a Twitter post June 24. "I gave you my heart, you gave me family."

Former Northwest and Creighton University forward Ryan Hawkins agreed to play in the NBA Summer League with the Toronto Raptors June 27.

Northwest guard Diego Bernard officially announced his return to Northwest for a final year July 4.

"Run it back, senior season let's get to work," Bernard said in a Twitter post.

The month of August has been filled with practices starting and rankings being released.

Northwest soccer is No. 4 in the MIAA preseason coaches poll, which was announced Aug. 12.

Northwest football was slated at No. 1 in the MIAA to start the season by MIAA media and coaches July 26. The Bearcats earned a No. 7 ranking in College Football America Yearbook's Preseason Top 30 Aug. 10 and a No. 2 ranking in American Football Coaches Association Preseason Division II Coaches Poll Aug. 15.



During a team scrimmage in the fall of 2021, then-Northwest sophomore setter Alyssa Rezac sets the ball up for her teammate. Rezac earned a first team All-MIAA selection for her efforts during the 2021 season.

## 'Cats to build off historical season

**RIVER BOYD**  
Sports Reporter | @RiverBoyd5

After a long offseason, Northwest volleyball is faced with building off of its best season in history with a record of 26-6. The team placed second in the MIAA Tournament and made the NCAA Division II Tournament for the second time in history.

To do that, the 'Cats will rely on a roster filled with veterans and newcomers.

One of these veterans is graduate student and first-team all-MIAA selection, Hallie Sidney.

"Every year is a different team," Sidney said. "This year we have a lot of returners along with impactful newcomers. Coaches are trying to push us more at practice to prepare us to compete in December. We have the same goals, and this year we're hoping to reach them all."

The goal remains the same as last season – win games, improve and make it back to the NCAA Division II tournament. The team plans to do so with motivation from last season and from the untapped potential of the team.

"I think last year's success barely scratched the surface of the potential of this team," Sidney said. "We didn't end the season the way we wanted to, so I think that definitely is a motivator."

The 'Cats volleyball team has worked all off-season to improve and prepare themselves for action this fall and a deep playoff run in December.

Sidney said she's excited to play against teams at a high level.

"Our practices have been really competitive and now we're looking to compete against a real opponent," Sidney said.

The team has some MIAA foes in sight, and the players know the matches will be competitive.

Some key opponents include school rival Missouri Western, Washburn, Nebraska-Kearney and Central Missouri. The 'Cats will have last year's premature ending as motivation, but they

will still have to go through one of the toughest conferences in Division II to be the best.

Junior setter Alyssa Rezac and 2021 first-team all-MIAA selection said her teammates have a bitter taste in their mouth after the loss in the conference tournament and the loss in the NCAA Division II tournament.

Rezac said they have those losses to look at for motivation, but they will also rely on the experience and leadership throughout the team.

"We have the same hard work ethic and drive," Rezac said. "We are excited to have Hallie suited back up because she brings a lot of experience and leadership to our team. Since graduating a couple of seniors, I think it is

giving some of the younger girls great opportunities to step up and fill those roles."

Northwest's regular season starts Aug. 26 in Canyon, Texas, with the Britake Lady Buff Classic.

In this tournament, the Bearcats will be heading into

unknown territory as they will be playing four teams they have never faced. The tournament will give the team the perfect first chance to see if the off-season and preseason work will pay off against multiple top division II opponents.



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# SPORTS

Aug. 18, 2022 | @NWMSports

## BACK IN GREEN



WESLEY MILLER SPORTS EDITOR

Northwest football sophomore running back Jadon Brady runs through his teammates' tackling attempts toward the end zone during practice Aug. 16.

## New season soon to begin for Bearcats

WESLEY MILLER  
Sports Editor | @wesleymiller360

Northwest football coach Rich Wright stood in the middle of the field in Bearcat Stadium with his players. It was a common sight toward the end of practice. He talked about what was good, what can be improved and what the upcoming schedule looked like.

While Wright and company have a couple weeks still to prepare, the start of the regular season is what is upcoming on the Bearcats' schedule.

But before that Sep. 1 game against MIAA foe Fort Hays State, Wright said he's focused on the day he's on.

"We just take the approach that we want to win today,"

Wright said.

"Today" for the Bearcats for the past few months has been all about preparation.

The team has gone through summer workouts, practices and camps, all to get in shape and ready for the start of the season.

Early season practices can prepare players to face their first official competition, whether it be drills, conditioning or walk-throughs, but they also give coaching staff a chance to see what their players are like before the season starts.

Heading into the new season, Wright said he's impressed with his players thus far, whether they're seasoned veterans or new guys.

"We're getting better

everyday," Wright said. "We have a lot of youth and inexperience, so the thing I've challenged them to do is get better everyday, and I feel like we're progressing."

Senior defensive lineman Elijah Green has seen plenty of players come in and out of the program.

Green said this year's newcomers have really stood out to him.

"The biggest thing I've seen from these younger guys is just their boldness," Green said. "Even though they're a freshman or redshirt freshman, they're like, 'I want to step up,' and like, 'This is my spot,' and I think that's amazing."

Now in his fifth season at Northwest, Green has taken on

a little bit of a leadership role on the team, not only in the title of "captain" but in how he conducts himself.

He said he's used to being in this kind of position before, so it's nothing unfamiliar to him when it comes to helping lead the ones behind him.

"I think my father, Clarence Green, raised me in a great way just to be a leader," Green said. "It's just like any other year, we want to lead vocally but, most importantly, we want to do the right things and be that example for everyone. The biggest buzzword for the thing we've been building this year is servanthood. How can we take care of each other more and more each day?"

SEE BEARCATS | A6

## Maryville football looks ahead to 2022 jamboree

RIVER BOYD  
Sports Reporter | @RiverBoyd5

After nearly 10 months off, Maryville football will kick off its season with the jamboree on Aug. 19 at Center High School in Kansas City, Missouri.

The team hopes to build off its previous season, when the 'Hounds finished 7-5, won the Class 2 District 7 Championship and made it to the quarterfinals of the state tournament.

Spoofhounds football has a rich history with plenty of deep playoff runs and state titles. The team knows that and looks to build off the team's historic past.

The 'Hounds plan to do that with the help of leadership from a senior lineman and team captain Kort Watkins. Watkins expects to make his senior year a memorable one.

"I am super excited for the season," Watkins said. "We have a really great team full of a bunch of great guys, and I can't wait for the season to unfold."

With the new season just around the corner, Watkins and his teammates are ready to get back onto the field.

Coach Matt Webb said he is impressed with the team so far through preseason practices, and he shares those high expectations for the season, focusing on the implementation of its game plan.

"Well, I think we're working on execution, we're working on being able to execute, we've been practicing hard all summer, so the biggest thing we're working on is execution," Webb said.

Spoofhounds worked hard all summer to prepare for the season ahead. Webb, along with the players, are proud of what they've accomplished and are looking forward to the season.

This jamboree against Center and William Chrisman high schools will give the Spoofhounds their first glance of what to expect for the season.

The 'Hounds plan to do that with the help of leadership from a senior lineman and team captain Kort Watkins. Watkins expects to make his senior year a memorable one.

"I am super excited for the season," Watkins said. "We have a really great team full of a bunch of great guys, and I can't wait for the season to unfold."



WESLEY MILLER SPORTS EDITOR

Maryville football senior running back Drew Burns receives the handoff and attempts to find an open hole during the Spoofhounds' practice in Bearcat Stadium Aug. 16.

SEE SPOOFHOUNDS | A6